Body Type HR for Hearses

New Policy

When a vehicle previously used as a hearse is changed/altered to meet the definition of a station wagon, the applicant or owner may apply for and be issued auto plates.

NOTE: A hearse cannot be converted to a station wagon if it is still being used as a hearse.

Procedures

The applicant must complete a Statement of Facts (REG 256) stating the vehicle has been changed or altered to meet the definition of a "station wagon" as defined in *Vehicle Code* (VC) §585. See the examples and definition of a commercial vehicle in the *Vehicle Industry Registration Procedures Manual* §13.010.

Background

Vehicles meeting the definition of a "hearse" are currently being permitted to be registered as autos which allow these vehicles to be exempt from payment of commercial weight fees. VC §585 reads in part: a "station wagon" is a dual purpose vehicle designed for the transportation of persons and also designed in such a manner that the seats may be removed or folded out of the way for the purpose of increasing the property carrying space within the vehicle.

Distribution

Notification that this memo is available online, at **www.dmv.ca.gov** under Publications was made via California DMVs Automated E-mail Alert System in November 2010.

Contact

Call the DMV Customer Communications Section, at (916) 657-6560 for further clarification of this memo. Upon request, this document can be produced in Braille or large print.

JEAN SHIOMOTO, Deputy Director Communication Programs Division

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